COVID-19 in Alaska

Revisions to Health Mandate 10

Dr. Anne Zink, Alaska's Chief Medical Officer June 3, 2020



COVID-19 Dashboard: Reporting data from 6/2/2020

- 18 new cases (505 total)
- 1 new nonresident case (23 total)
- 2 additional recovered cases (373 total)
- No new additional deaths (10 total)
- No new hospitalizations (47 total)
- 58,183 cumulative tests
- 0.9% of tests were positive









Before you go:

- Get tested (coming to AK)
- Limit exposure
- Know the local rules
- Plan your trip to minimize your interactions – fishing license, food pick-up, etc.
- Back up plans and insurance

During travel and upon arrival:

- Use a mask
- Hand hygiene
- Declaration form
- Provide test results or get tested on arrival
- Educational material
- Receive voucher for repeat testing

Watch the window

- Limit exposure avoid any public indoor space for >10 min during the window
- Get repeat test 7-14 days after arrival
- If repeat test is negative, follow the same guidelines as the local community

Travel and COVID-19

- Travel is:
 - One of four major ways that the COVID-19 outbreak could accelerate
 - Important to many businesses, families, Alaskans and nonresidents
- Travel restrictions are important tools for states and countries to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep cases down.
- The federal government still limits non-essential travel to the U.S. from certain areas.
- Canada still limits non-essential travel across the borders.



Travel and COVID-19

- Traveling during a pandemic is not simple.
 There will be some degree of uncertainty.
 This is not a time to travel lightly, but it's important to permit travel and ensure it is as safe as possible.
- Travel is essential for Alaskans and the travel industry is an important part of our economy.
- The health and well-being of Alaskans is our top priority.



The State Public Health Labs are Hiring!

State public health labs in Anchorage and Fairbanks are seeking to fill the following non-permanent positions:

- Administrative staff for entering patient demographics (names, dates of birth, etc.) into our database.
- Laboratory technicians for assisting with specimen handling, nucleic acid extractions, making media for virus transport, equipment maintenance, and inventory.
- Public Health Microbiologists, preferably certified as Med Tech or Clinical Laboratory Scientist, for performing COVID and other patient testing. Clinical experience with PCR and/or ELISA is preferred.

All positions require a 1 year commitment (paid/with benefits). Applicants must demonstrate great attention to detail and handle flexible scheduling. HIPAA training will be provided upon hire.

These positions will be posted soon on Workplace Alaska.





Thank you, everyone - small sacrifices make a big difference



- Questions regarding DHSS COVID response, including mandates and alerts, can be sent to: <u>covidquestions@alaska.gov</u>.
- Questions regarding DHSS data can be sent to: data.coronavirus@alaska.gov
- For general questions, contact 2-1-1 or 1-800-478-2221. Extended call center hours: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m., 7 days a week.